REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application in light of the amendments above and the remarks below is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the amendments and remarks in Applicants' reply of March 14, 2005 and for allowing Claims 12-20.

The unallowed claims are hereby canceled without prejudice to pursue them in a continuation application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in the application. A statement of reasons for allowable subject matter was set forth by the Examiner. While the Applicants agree that Claims 12-20 are allowable for at least the reasons set forth in the Examiner's statement, Applicants submit that the invention as recited by the claims and as described in the present application is patentable over the art of record for reasons in addition to those listed in the Examiner's statement. For example, Applicants note that the Examiner's statement addresses only to independent Claim 12. The dependent claims contain recitations in addition to those stated by the Examiner that provide additional bases for patentability over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims of different scope than those in the present application. For example, such claims may not necessarily need to include the elements identified in the Examiner's statement. Applicants further note that the Examiner's statement is directed only to claims 12-20.

Request for Entry of Amendment

Entry of this Amendment will place the Application in better condition for allowance, or at the least, narrow any issues for an appeal. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment is appropriate and is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Based on all of the above, Applicant believes all claims now pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

Dated: May 13, 2005

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